

Portfolio Overview

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio Overview

Ministers and portfolio responsibilities

There are seven Ministers with responsibility for the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio:

- The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- The Hon Michelle Rowland MP, Minister for Communications
- The Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for the Arts
- The Hon Madeleine King MP, Minister for Northern Australia
- The Hon Kristy McBain MP, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories
- Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister, Minister for Cities
- Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm, Assistant Minister for Regional Development

The Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio comprises the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the Department) and 29 other entities.

The key responsibilities of all agencies are outlined below:

- **Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts** – The Department is responsible for the design and implementation of the Australian Government’s infrastructure, transport, regional development, communications and arts policies and programs. The Department works to: improve major transport and digital infrastructure across Australia; support an efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe, accessible and secure transport system; improve living standards and facilitate economic growth in our cities and regions, including northern Australia; support regional growth and resilience through connectivity, reliability and security for agricultural and other primary industry users; provide good governance frameworks and services to support communities in the territories; enable people in Australia to connect to effective, safe communications services and enabling investment in communications, technologies and infrastructure, for inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth; and support sustainable and inclusive creative and cultural sectors, and protect and promote Australian content and culture.
- **Airservices Australia** – Airservices Australia is a corporate Commonwealth entity, responsible for providing facilities and services for the safety, regularity and efficiency of air navigation within Australian-administered airspace. This includes providing air traffic services, aviation rescue fire-fighting services, aeronautical information, radio navigation and telecommunications services.
- **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)** – The ABC is a national broadcaster and digital media provider. It is an integral part of the Australian media, providing radio, television and digital media services to all Australians, including independent news and information services. It offers programming that informs, educates and entertains, and contributes to and reflects Australia’s national identity, including delivering such programming to overseas audiences. The ABC encourages cultural diversity, fosters public debate, engages directly with local communities, and nurtures and promotes the creative industries, music and the arts. In addition to its legislated obligations, the ABC also delivers emergency broadcasting services.
- **Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)** – ACMA is responsible for regulating in accordance with legislation related to broadcasting, radiocommunications, telecommunications and online content. ACMA works with all stakeholders to maximise the public benefit, including the extent to which the regulatory framework addresses the broad concerns of the community, meets the needs of industry, and maintains community and national interest safeguards.

- **Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS)** – AFTRS is the national institution for specialist education, training and research for screen and broadcast industries. AFTRS works hand-in-hand with the screen and broadcast industries to provide Australians with the highest level of screen and broadcast education, training and research so that Australian stories and culture thrive at home and around the world.
- **Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)** – AMSA is responsible for the maritime safety of international shipping and domestic commercial vessels, protection of the marine environment from ship-sourced pollution and other environmental damage caused by shipping, and search and rescue nationally.
- **Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM)** – The ANMM is responsible for leading the promotion and conservation of Australia’s maritime heritage and culture. This is done through: developing and sharing its collections, knowledge and expertise; motivating learning through research, educational programs and products; supporting community participation to retain Australia’s maritime heritage; and exploring contemporary issues of public interest and maritime relevance.
- **Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)** – Australia Post is a Government Business Enterprise, wholly owned by the Australian Government. It provides a letter delivery service to all people in Australia, and a range of parcel, logistics and other services.
- **Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited (ARTC)** – The ARTC is a Government Business Enterprise, wholly owned by the Australian Government. It was established in 1998, and manages and operates more than 8,500 kilometers of the national rail network across five states.
- **Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB)** – The purpose of the ATSB is to improve the safety of, and public confidence in, aviation, rail and marine transport. The ATSB conducts independent investigations of transport accidents and other safety occurrences, undertakes safety data recording, analysis and research, and influences safety action.
- **Bundanon Trust** – Bundanon Trust cares for the Boyd art collection and supports arts practice and engagement with the arts through its Art Museum and its residency, learning, research and performance programs. In preserving the natural and cultural heritage of its site, Bundanon Trust promotes the value of landscape in all our lives.

- **Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)** – CASA has the function of conducting the safety regulation of the civil air operations in Australian territory and the operation of Australian aircraft outside Australian territory. While safety regulation of civil aviation remains its primary role, CASA also performs other safety-related and associated functions. CASA also has responsibility for airspace regulation.
- **Creative Australia** – Creative Australia is the Australian Government’s principal arts investment, development, funding and advisory body with a purpose to champion and invest in arts and creativity for a dynamic and creative Australia. Creative Australia has a national leadership role in supporting and building Australia’s cultural infrastructure by ensuring local and global audiences enjoy the benefits of thriving, dynamic and sustainable cultural and creative industries.
- **High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA)** – The *High Speed Rail Authority Act 2022* commenced on 13 June 2023 and establishes the HSRA. The HSRA will oversee the development of a High Speed Rail (HSR) network and advise on Australia’s current and future HSR needs.
- **Infrastructure Australia (IA)** – IA’s primary role is to be the Commonwealth Government’s independent adviser on nationally significant infrastructure investment planning and project prioritisation.
- **National Archives of Australia (National Archives)** – The National Archives is established under the *Archives Act 1983*. National Archives provides leadership in best practice management of the official record of the Commonwealth, and ensures that Australian Government information of enduring significance is secured, preserved and accessible to those with an interest in connecting with the national archival collection, including government agencies, researchers and the community.
- **National Capital Authority (NCA)** – The NCA performs the role of trustee and manager of areas in Canberra and the Australian Capital Territory that are designated as National Land for the special purpose of Canberra as the National Capital. The NCA’s statutory function is to manage the Australian Government’s interest in the strategic planning, promotion, development and enhancement of Canberra as the National Capital.
- **National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (NFSA)** – The NFSA is Australia’s premier audiovisual archive. It collects and preserves significant Australian film, recorded sound, broadcast works and new media, and shares the collection with audiences across Australia and overseas.

- **National Gallery of Australia (the National Gallery)** – The purpose of the National Gallery is to: develop and maintain a national collection of works of art; exhibit, or make available for exhibition by others, works of art from the national collection or works of art that are otherwise in the possession of the National Gallery; and to make the most advantageous use of the national collection in the national interest.
- **National Intermodal Corporation Limited (National Intermodal)** – National Intermodal is a Government Business Enterprise wholly owned by the Australian Government. It has been established to facilitate the development of intermodal freight terminals.
- **National Library of Australia (Library)** – The Library ensures that documentary resources of national significance relating to Australia and the Australian people, as well as significant non-Australian library materials, are collected, preserved and made accessible either through the Library or through collaborative arrangements with other libraries.
- **National Museum of Australia (NMA)** – The NMA brings to life the rich and diverse stories of the nation through researching, developing, preserving, digitising and exhibiting a significant national collection, and creating programs and partnerships for national and international audiences.
- **National Portrait Gallery of Australia (NPGA)** – The purpose of the NPGA is to develop, preserve, maintain and promote a national collection of portraits and other works of art. It also develops and engages a national audience for the collection, exhibitions, education, research, publications, and public and online programs.
- **National Transport Commission (NTC)** – The NTC leads national land transport reform in support of Australian governments to improve safety, productivity, environmental outcomes and regulatory efficiency relating to road, rail and intermodal transport.
- **NBN Co Limited (NBN Co)** – NBN Co is a Government Business Enterprise, wholly owned by the Australian Government. It is supporting the transition of Australia to a digital future by operating the National Broadband Network, a high-speed, wholesale local access broadband network. NBN Co’s purpose is to lift the digital capacity of Australia, allowing all Australians to have access to fast and reliable broadband.

- **Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)** – NAIF provides financial assistance by way of debt, equity or alternative financing mechanisms to infrastructure projects that will support economic growth and stimulate population growth in northern Australia. NAIF is able to finance a wide range of infrastructure assets that facilitate the establishment or enhancement of business activity or increase economic activity in the region.
- **Old Parliament House (OPH)** – OPH is a corporate Commonwealth entity. It was the home of the Federal Parliament from 1927 to 1988 and is an icon of national significance. It now houses the Museum of Australian Democracy, which provides dynamic exhibitions, events, engagement and education programs, to explore Australia’s democratic traditions and the factors and people that shaped that journey and improve understanding of democracy and the skills required to participate in it.
- **Screen Australia** – Screen Australia supports a vibrant, viable screen industry, reflecting the depth and diversity of Australian storytelling.
- **Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)** – SBS is a national broadcaster. It provides multicultural and multilingual services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians. Its mission is to contribute to a more cohesive, equitable and harmonious Australia through its television, radio and digital media services.
- **WSA Co Limited (WSA Co)** – WSA Co is an unlisted public company limited by shares, and a Government Business Enterprise, wholly owned by the Australian Government. It was established in 2017 to develop and operate the Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport at Badgerys Creek. WSA Co is required to execute its responsibilities with the Commonwealth in order to achieve operational readiness of the Airport by the end of 2026.

A summary of the Portfolio structure is at Figure 1. Further detail about the responsibilities of each agency appears in individual agency chapters.

Airservices Australia; Australia Post; ARTC; Bundanon Trust; National Intermodal; NBN Co; and WSA Co do not appear in the 2025-26 Portfolio Budget Statements as these entities do not receive direct funding through the annual appropriation acts.

For information on resourcing across the portfolio, please refer to Part 1: Agency Financial Resourcing in the *Budget Paper No. 4: Agency Resourcing*.

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes

<p>Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government The Hon Catherine King MP</p>
<p>Minister for Communications The Hon Michelle Rowland MP</p>
<p>Minister for the Arts The Hon Tony Burke MP</p>
<p>Minister for Northern Australia The Hon Madeleine King MP</p>
<p>Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories The Hon Kristy McBain MP</p>
<p>Minister for Cities Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister</p>
<p>Assistant Minister for Regional Development Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm</p>

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

<p>Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Secretary: Mr Jim Betts</p> <p>Outcome 1: Improved infrastructure across Australia through investment in and coordination of transport and other infrastructure</p> <p>Outcome 2: An efficient, sustainable, competitive, safe and secure transport system for all transport users through regulation, financial assistance and safety investigations</p> <p>Outcome 3: Strengthening the sustainability, capacity and diversity of Australia’s cities and regions including northern Australia, including through facilitating local partnerships between all levels of government and local communities; through investment in infrastructure and measures that stimulate economic growth; and providing grants and financial assistance</p> <p>Outcome 4: Good governance and service delivery in the Australian territories including through the maintenance and improvement of the laws and services for non-self-governing territories, and the overarching legislative framework for self-governing territories</p> <p>Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services</p> <p>Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia’s arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression</p>
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<p>Airservices Australia Chair: Mr John Weber Chief Executive Officer: Mr Rob Sharp</p> <p>Mission: Provide air navigation and aviation rescue fire-fighting services for the aviation industry and community</p>

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

<p style="text-align: center;">Australian Broadcasting Corporation Chair: Mr Kim Williams AM Managing Director: Mr Hugh Marks</p> <p>Outcome 1: Informed, educated and entertained audiences – throughout Australia and overseas – through innovative and comprehensive media and related services</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Australian Communications and Media Authority Chair and Agency Head: Ms Nerida O’Loughlin PSM Deputy Chair and Chief Executive Officer: Mr Adam Suckling</p> <p>Outcome 1: A communications and media environment that balances the needs of the industry and the Australian community through regulation, education and advice</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Australian Film, Television and Radio School Chair: Ms Rachel Perkins Chief Executive Officer: Dr Nell Greenwood</p> <p>Outcome 1: Support the development of a professional screen arts and broadcast culture in Australia including through the provision of specialist industry-focused education, training and research</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Australian Maritime Safety Authority Chair: Capt. Jeanine Drummond Chief Executive Officer: Ms Kaylene Dale</p> <p>Outcome 1: Minimise the risk of shipping incidents and pollution in Australian waters through ship safety and environment protection regulation and services and maximise people saved from maritime and aviation incidents through search and rescue coordination</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Australian National Maritime Museum Chair: Mr John Mullen AM Director and Chief Executive Officer: Ms Daryl Karp AM</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of Australia’s maritime heritage by managing the National Maritime Collection and staging programs, exhibitions and events</p>

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

<p style="text-align: center;">Australian Postal Corporation Chairperson: Ms Siobhan McKenna Group Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director: Mr Paul Graham</p> <p>Mission: Australia Post is required by law to provide a letter service which is reasonably accessible to all people in Australia, including a uniform price for a standard postal article carried by ordinary post within Australia</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited Chair: Mr Peter Duncan AM Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer: Mr Wayne Johnson</p> <p>Mission: To deliver a safe and effective rail network operation that connects the nation, now and into the future</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Australian Transport Safety Bureau Chief Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer: Mr Angus Mitchell</p> <p>Outcome 1: Improved transport safety in Australia including through: independent 'no blame' investigation of transport accidents and other safety occurrences; safety data recording, analysis and research; and influencing safety action</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Bundanon Trust Chair: Mr Samuel Edwards Chief Executive Officer: Ms Rachel Kent</p> <p>Mission: To operate the Bundanon properties as a centre for creative arts and education, to support the development of arts practice across all disciplines and to enable public access to the arts and to the landscape</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Civil Aviation Safety Authority Chair: Air Chief Marshal (Ret'd) Mark Binskin AC Chief Executive Officer: Ms Pip Spence PSM</p> <p>Outcome 1: Maximise aviation safety through a regulatory regime, detailed technical material on safety standards, comprehensive aviation industry oversight, risk analysis, industry consultation, education and training</p>

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

<p>Creative Australia Chair: Mr Robert Morgan Chief Executive Officer: Mr Adrian Collette AM</p> <p>Outcome 1: Local and global audiences enjoy the benefits of thriving, dynamic and sustainable cultural and creative industries, supported through investment, development, partnerships, advice and recognition for Australian artists and arts organisations</p>
<p>High Speed Rail Authority Chair: Ms Jill Rossouw Chief Executive Officer: Mr Timothy Parker</p> <p>Outcome 1: Developing a high speed rail network between capital cities and key regional centres through policy development and planning, national coordination and strategic advice to enhance Australia’s long-term rail investment</p>
<p>Infrastructure Australia Chief Commissioner: Tim Reardon Chief Executive Officer: Mr Adam Copp</p> <p>Outcome 1: Improve decision-making on matters relating to infrastructure; advise governments and others on matters relating to infrastructure, including better assessment of infrastructure needs and prioritisation of infrastructure projects; and promote best practice infrastructure planning, financing, delivery and operation</p>
<p>National Archives of Australia Director-General: Mr Simon Froude</p> <p>Outcome 1: To promote the creation, management and preservation of authentic, reliable and usable Commonwealth records and to facilitate Australians’ access to the archival resources of the Commonwealth</p>
<p>National Capital Authority Chair: Mr Terry Weber Chief Executive: Ms Karen Doran</p> <p>Outcome 1: To shape Canberra as a capital that all Australians can be proud of by ensuring it is well planned, managed and promoted, consistent with its enduring national significance</p>

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

<p style="text-align: center;">National Film and Sound Archive of Australia Chair: Ms Annette Shun Wah Chief Executive Officer: Mr Patrick McIntyre</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased engagement with Australia’s audiovisual culture past and present through developing, preserving, maintaining and promoting the national audiovisual collection of historic and cultural significance</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">National Gallery of Australia Chair: Mr Ryan Stokes AO Chief Executive Officer: Dr Nick Mitzevich</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased understanding, knowledge and enjoyment of the visual arts by providing access to, and information about, works of art locally, nationally and internationally</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">National Intermodal Corporation Limited Chair: Ms Erin Flaherty Chief Executive Officer: Mr James Boulderstone</p> <p>Mission: Develop and operate an interconnected network of state-of-the-art open access intermodal precincts across Australia</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">National Library of Australia Chair: Distinguished Professor Larissa Behrendt AO Director-General: Dr Marie-Louise Ayres</p> <p>Outcome 1: Enhanced learning, knowledge creation, enjoyment and understanding of Australian life and society by providing access to a national collection of library material</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">National Museum of Australia Chair: Professor Clare Wright OAM Director: Ms Katherine McMahon</p> <p>Outcome 1: Increased awareness and understanding of Australia’s history and culture by managing the National Museum’s collections and providing access through public programs and exhibitions</p>

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

<p>National Portrait Gallery of Australia Chair: Ms Sam Meers AO Director: Ms Bree Pickering</p> <p>Outcome 1: Enhanced understanding and appreciation of Australian identity, culture and diversity through portraiture by engaging the public in education programs and exhibitions, and by developing and preserving the national portrait collection</p>
<p>National Transport Commission Chair and Ordinary Member: Ms Carolyn Walsh Chief Executive Officer: Mr Michael Hopkins</p> <p>Outcome 1: Improved transport productivity, efficiency, safety and environmental performance and regulatory efficiency in Australia through developing, monitoring and maintaining nationally consistent regulatory and operational arrangements relating to road, rail and intermodal transport</p>
<p>NBN Co Limited Interim Chair: Mr Kevin Russell Chief Executive Officer: Ms Ellie Sweeney</p> <p>Mission: To lift the digital capability of Australia</p>
<p>Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Chair: Ms Tracey Hayes Chief Executive Officer: Mr Craig Doyle</p> <p>Outcome 1: Enable economic growth in northern Australia, by facilitating private sector investment in economic infrastructure, primarily through the provision of concessional financing delivered through the State and Territory Governments</p>
<p>Old Parliament House Chair: Mr Barrie Cassidy Executive Director and CEO: Ms Stephanie Bull</p> <p>Outcome 1: An enhanced appreciation and understanding of the political and social heritage of Australia for members of the public, through activities including the conservation and upkeep of, and the provision of access to, Old Parliament House and the development of its collections, exhibitions and educational programs</p>

Figure 1: Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

<p style="text-align: center;">Screen Australia Chair: Mr Michael Ebeid AM Chief Executive Officer: Ms Deirdre Brennan</p> <p>Outcome 1: Promote engaged audiences and support a creative, innovative and commercially sustainable screen industry through the funding and promotion of diverse Australian screen product</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Special Broadcasting Service Corporation Chair: Mr George Savvides AM Managing Director: Mr James Taylor</p> <p>Outcome 1: Provide multilingual and multicultural services that inform, educate and entertain all Australians and in so doing reflect Australia’s multicultural society</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">WSA Co Limited Chair: Mr Paul O’Sullivan Chief Executive Officer: Mr Simon Hickey</p> <p>Mission: Develop and operate Sydney’s new major airport, Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport</p>

